



2017

napa valley vintage overview

a combination of heat waves and vine stress.	without struggle, there is no glory.
--	--------------------------------------

The 2017 vintage in Napa Valley presented a series of challenges yet delivered wines of remarkable quality across both red and white varietals. According to Winemaker Jean Hoefliger, the season began with significant winter rain and flooding, leading to predictions of larger berry sizes. However, a combination of heat waves and vine stress throughout the growing season ultimately resulted in smaller berries with concentrated flavors.

For white wines, the early season's ample rainfall provided the vines with strong vegetative growth, which balanced the effects of multiple heat spikes throughout spring and summer. These conditions kept the vines under enough stress to maintain smaller berry size, preserving acidity and aromatic complexity. Harvesting began early, and the team was able to pick at optimal ripeness, achieving wines with vibrant aromatics, fresh acidity, and a refined texture. For red wines, the season's intense heat waves, including a ten-day stretch in September with temperatures exceeding 105 degrees, required careful vineyard management. Fortunately, the early season rainfall provided the necessary vine health to withstand these extreme conditions. The combination of steady vine stress and smaller berries produced wines with excellent concentration, balanced tannins, and deep flavor profiles. Harvest was completed by the first week of October, just before the devastating wildfires began.

Jean describes the 2017 vintage as a testament to resilience, noting that “without struggle, there is no glory.” Despite the season’s challenges, the wines from 2017 exhibit exceptional quality, with both whites and reds showcasing remarkable structure, depth, and balance. Jean believes this vintage stand among the most impressive since 2002, a reflection of both the vineyard team's dedication and Napa Valley’s ability to produce outstanding wines under demanding conditions.